

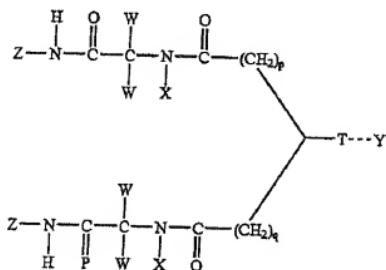
AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1-21. (Cancelled)

22. (New) A compound of the formula



formula (XII)

in which

Z is a C₁-C₈-alkyl, or a group of the formula (X'a), (X'b) or (IIa)

R₁(CH₂-CH₂-O)_n-CH₂-CH₂-N-CO-(CH₂)_s-
R₁-(CH₂-CH₂-O)_s-CH₂-CH₂

formula (X'a)

Application No. 10/559,996
Supplemental Amendment

R₁-(CH₂-CH₂-O)_n-CH₂-CH₂-NH-CO-(CH₂)_p-

formula (X'b)

R₁-(CH₂-CH₂-O)_n-CH₂-CH₂-

formula (IIa)

wherein

a is, on each occasion, an integer from 0 to 50, and

n is, on each occasion independently, an integer from 3 to 1000, and

R₁, is H, HO, CH₃O-, CH₃-(CH₂)_a-O-, where a is an integer from 1 to 20,

(CH₃)₂CH-O-, (CH₃O)₂-, (CH₃-CH₂O)₂-, OHC-CH₂-O-, CH₂=CH-CH₂-O-, CH₂=CH-CO₂-,

CH₂=C(CH₃)-CO₂-, CH₂=CH-CONH-, H₂N-CH₂-CH₂- or A-NH-CH₂-CH₂- where A is a protecting group,

X is a residue of formula (IIa),

W is independently at each occurrence hydrogen, a C₁-C₆ hydrocarbon residue or a residue of formula (IIa),

T is a linker group, which is an alkyl chain which is branched or unbranched, saturated or unsaturated and which optionally contains one or more heteroatoms selected from N, S and O,

Y is selected from the group consisting of (O-alkyl)₂, -OSO₂CH₂CF₃ (tresyl), (O-aryl)-azides, maleimidyl, -O-CO-nitrophenyl or trichlorophenyl, -S-S-alkyl, -S-S-aryl, -SO₂-alkenyl (vinylsulfone), or -halogen (Cl, Br or I), and -CO-Q, where Q is selected independently from the group consisting of H, O-N-succinimide, O-N-sulfosuccinimide, O-N-phthalimide, O-N-glutarimide, O-N-tetrahydrophthalimide, N-norbornene-2,3-dicarboximide, hydroxybenzotriazoles and hydroxy-7-azabenzotriazoles,

p and q are in each case integers from 0 to 5, and

the residues W, X and Z together comprise at least two residues which have the formula (IIa)

Application No. 10/559,996
Supplemental Amendment

R₁-(CH₂-CH₂-O)_n-CH₂-CH₂-

formula (IIa)

in which

R₁ is H, HO, CH₃O-, CH₃-(CH₂)_a-O-, where a is an integer from 1 to 20,
(CH₃)₂CH-O-, (CH₃O)₂-, (CH₃-CH₂O)₂-, OHC-CH₂O-, CH₂=CH-CH₂O-, CH₂=CH-CO₂-,
CH₂=C(CH₃)-CO₂, CH₂=CH-CONH-, H₂N-CH₂-CH₂- or A-NH-CH₂-CH₂- where A is a
protecting group, and
n is, on each occasion, independently, an integer of from 3 to 1000.

23. (New) The compound of claim 22, wherein the compound comprises at least three residues which have formula (IIa).

24. (New) The compound of claim 22, wherein T is derived from glutamic acid.

25. (New) A pharmaceutical composition which comprises a compound as claimed in claim 22.

26. (New) A diagnostic composition which comprises a compound as claimed in claim 22.